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June 9, 2003

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Hatch:

I am writing on behalf of the forty (40) State Narcotic Officers' Associations and more than 60,000 narcotic officers represented by the National Narcotic Officers' Associations' Coalition (NNOAC), to strongly urge the confirmation of Ms. Karen P. Tandy as Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration. Our Coalition has had the privilege and pleasure of working closely with Ms. Tandy in her capacity as an Associate Deputy Attorney General and Director of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF). She has impressed us with the depth and breadth of her knowledge on narcotic enforcement issues, which she has learned during her 29 years of service with the United States Department of Justice. Ms. Tandy's background as a career prosecutor, as the Chief of the Litigation Unit in the Asset Forfeiture Office, and now as an Associate Deputy Attorney General, has made her uniquely qualified for this critically important position.

As you know, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) leads our nation's drug law enforcement efforts throughout the United States and from offices located around the globe. The DEA is one of the world's premiere law enforcement agencies and, because of the threat that drug trafficking poses to the security of our nation, it deserves leadership of the highest quality. If confirmed, Karen Tandy would bring that leadership to the DEA and help it grow and prosper in this ever-changing world. Ms.

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Tandy's reputation as a prosecutor, manager and executive, and the experience that she would bring to the position, not only in drug enforcement but in dealing with the complexities of managing large programs and budgets would make her a tremendous asset to the men and women who serve in the DEA and to the citizens that they protect.

I have personally had the opportunity to work closely with Ms. Tandy and know her to be a person of unquestioned integrity with a tireless work ethic, and a deep sense of commitment to drug enforcement and the safety of all Americans. The 60,000 members from the National Narcotic Officers' Associations' Coalition (NNOAC) can think of no one more qualified to lead our nation's drug enforcement efforts than Ms. Karen P. Tandy. We would urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to confirm her nomination as quickly as possible.

Should you require further information or if you have questions of me, please feel free to contact me at rbrooks@nnoac.org or by telephone at (415) 436-8199. Thank you for your consideration of our views and I look forward to working with you and your staff on other matters regarding drug policy and public safety.

Sincerely

Ronald E. Brooks
President